



Welcome to the
Probate and Family Court
Department of the
Massachusetts Trial Court.

Many Probate and
Family Law matters
involve complex and
valuable legal rights.
You should always
speak with an attorney
before filing any papers.

LOOKING FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE?

This booklet
contains a list of
Lawyer Referral Services,
Free Legal Resources and
Legal Aid Agencies in

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICES

LEGAL RESOURCES

The
Massachusetts
Trial Court
provides free
legal resources

MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Referrals to private attorneys, including reduced
fee panel.

Call (617) 654-0400 or (800) 392-6164

e-mail: lrs@massbar.org

To register online, visit
www.massbar.org/lawhelp/

BOSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Referrals to private attorneys, including reduced fee panel.
Serves mainly Greater Boston, inside Route 495, but will
provide referrals throughout Massachusetts.

Call (617) 742-0625 or e-mail: lrs@bostonbar.org

For more information, visit
www.bostonbar.org/lrs/index

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Referrals to attorneys in Middlesex County.

Call (617) 494-4150

NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD

14 Beacon Street, Suite 407

Boston, MA 02108

Lawyer referral service geared to low and moderate income
clients, women and minority rights issues but will take any
case. Spanish speaking staff available.

Serves Greater Boston.

Call (617) 227-7008 Mon - Fri 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
or leave a message

MASSACHUSETTS JUDICIAL BRANCH WEB SITE

The official web site of the Judicial Branch includes
judicial profiles, addresses, phone numbers and
directions for courthouses as well as other useful
information about the Trial Court. Click on
www.state.ma.us/courts

MIDDLESEX LAW LIBRARY

40 Thorndike Street
Cambridge, MA 02141

LOWELL LAW LIBRARY

Superior Courthouse
360 Gorham Street
Lowell, MA 01852

The Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries are open to the public, providing legal reference services and legal research assistance. The library is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Ask at the Registry of Probate for the Law Libraries pamphlet which provides more details.

Call (617) 494-4148 (Cambridge) or (978) 452-9301 (Lowell) or visit the Law Libraries web site www.lawlib.state.ma.us

TEL-LAW

Tel-Law is a collection of recorded messages designed to answer basic questions about the law. Tel-Law is fully automated and you can access it 24 hours/day by calling (617) 338-0669. (Toll charges may apply)

WEB SITE

The MBA's web site offers answers to basic legal questions. Point your browser to www.massbar.org

DIAL-A-LAWYER

The first Wednesday of every month you can get free legal help, by telephone, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Lawyer volunteers staff phones to answer your questions.

Call (617) 338-0610

**LEGAL
SERVICE
AGENCIES**

These resources are available only to very low income and elderly individuals

LEGAL ADVOCACY & RESOURCE CENTER

Provides telephone information, pro se assistance and referrals to legal service agencies. Intake hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Call (800) 342-5297

CAMBRIDGE AND SOMERVILLE LEGAL SERVICES

432 Columbia Street, Suite 16
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 494-1800

Will handle cases for victims of domestic violence or for primary caretakers in contested custody and visitation cases involving child abuse or neglect. Will also handle cases for custodial parent seeking child support.

Serves Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge, Everett, Medford, Somerville and Watertown.

GREATER BOSTON LEGAL SERVICES

197 Friend Street
Boston, MA 02114
(800) 323-3205 or (617) 371-1234

Represents custodial parents in divorce, paternity, visitation, parental kidnapping, contested guardianships and contempts (with certain restrictions). Represents prospective guardians if parents do not object. Limited representation in DSS involved cases (with certain restrictions).

Serves Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Newton, Stoneham, Wakefield, Waltham and Watertown.

Free
resources
offered by the
Massachusetts
Bar Association

SOUTH MIDDLESEX LEGAL SERVICES

354 Waverly Street
Framingham, MA 01702
(508) 620-1830 or (800) 696-1501

Handles divorces for custodial parent or disabled parent. Domestic violence cases (209A restraining orders). Also has pro bono divorce panel.
Serves Acton, Ashland, Bedford, Carlisle, Concord, Framingham, Holliston, Hopkinton, Hudson, Lexington, Lincoln, Marlborough, Maynard, Natick, Sherborn, Stow, Sudbury, Wayland and Weston.

MERRIMACK VALLEY LEGAL SERVICES

35 John Street, Suite 302
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 458-1465 or (978) 458-7701

Handles divorce and custody cases for primary caretaker if case involves recent abuse or child custody dispute.

Serves Ashby, Ayer, Billerica, Boxborough, Burlington, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Groton, Lowell, Littleton, North Reading, Pepperell, Reading, Shirley, Tewksbury, Townsend, Tyngsborough, Westford and Wilmington.

TRI-CAP, INC.

110 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148
(781) 322-4125

Handles divorces, custody, visitation, modifications, guardianship, name changes, simple wills and probate of simple estates.

Serves Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose and Wakefield.

BOSTON COLLEGE LEGAL ASSISTANCE BUREAU

24 Crescent Street, Suite 202
Waltham, MA 02453-4088
(781) 893-4793

Contested divorces, custody issues for custodial and non-custodial parents, child support (priority to custodial parents) and emergency 209A complaints.

Serves Newton, Watertown and Waltham.

HARVARD LEGAL AID BUREAU

1587 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 495-4408

Handles family law cases for custodial parents; divorce, 209A issues, support, custody, contempt, visitation for non-custodial parent if no domestic violence and client is up to date on support.
Serves Arlington, Belmont, Burlington, Cambridge, Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Newton, N. Reading, Somerville, Stoneham, Wakefield, Waltham, Watertown, Weston, Wilmington, Winchester and Woburn.

NEW ENGLAND SCHOOL OF LAW CLINICAL LAW OFFICE

46 Church Street
Boston, MA 02116
(617) 442-7380

Handles divorces for primary caretaker only.
Serves Everett, Malden, Melrose and Wakefield.

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY LEGAL ASSISTANCE BUREAU

350 Broadway
Chelsea, MA 02150
(617) 884-7568

Represents indigent clients in divorces involving custody or property.

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES - BET TZEDEK OF BOSTON

1340 Centre Street
Newton, MA 02459
(617) 558-1278

Provides referrals to pro bono or low-cost attorneys in family law cases including divorce, alimony, custody, visitation, domestic violence, guardianship and conservatorship. Will handle Russian speaking clients.

VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT
OF THE BOSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

29 Temple Place, Suite 300
Boston, MA 02111
(617) 423-0648 or (617) 338-6790 (TTY)

Assigns private volunteer attorneys to represent indigent individuals in divorces, child custody cases, wills and uncontested guardianships of minors and adults.

Serves Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge, Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Newton, Somerville, Stoneham, Wakefield, Waltham, Watertown, Winchester and Woburn.

FAMILY LAW PROJECT FOR BATTERED WOMEN
WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION AND
WOMEN'S BAR FOUNDATION

Provides free legal services to battered women involved in contested domestic relations cases. Applicants must have been denied eligibility by legal service organizations to qualify.

Call Women's Bar Foundation at (617) 589-9420

LAWYER
OF THE
DAY

LAWYER OF THE DAY

Private, volunteer attorney offers brief consultation at the courthouse providing basic legal advice to qualifying individuals on a walk-in basis. Attorney does not continue to advise the individual after initial meeting or accompany individual into the courtroom. Attorney may not be available every day. For availability, call (617) 768-5909 or ask at the Registry of Probate.